



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Chentsau Ying et al.

SERIAL NO.: 09/991,166

FILED: November 16, 2001

FOR: METHOD OF REDUCING PARTICULATES
IN A PLASMA ETCH CHAMBER
DURING A METAL ETCH PROCESS

§ GROUP ART UNIT: 1765

§

§ EXAMINER: L. Vinh

§

§

§

§

§ Attorney Docket No.:

§ AM-5630.P1

Date: March 18, 2004

**AMENDMENT "A" UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111
AND DECLARATION OF PRIOR INVENTION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.131
TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

**Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**


Sir:

Transmitted herewith is applicants' Amendment "A" in response to the Office Action mailed November 5, 2003, having a shortened statutory period for response of February 5, 2004. This Amendment "A" is accompanied by a Petition for a Two Month Extension of Time, to extend the period for response through April 5, 2004.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR § 1.10

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as U.S. EXPRESS MAIL NO. ER534273792US in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment (With Fee), Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: March 18, 2004


Shirley L. Church, Reg. No. 31,858

CLAIMS AS AMENDED

	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER <u>AMENDMENT</u>		HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY <u>PAID FOR</u>		PRESENT <u>EXTRA</u>		<u>RATE</u>	ADDITIONAL <u>FEE</u>
TOTAL CLAIMS	64	minus	60	=	4	x	\$18.00	\$72.00
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	7	minus	7	=	0	x	\$86.00	\$00.00
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS			0				\$290.00	\$00.00
TWO MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME								\$420.00
							TOTAL FEE DUE	\$492.00

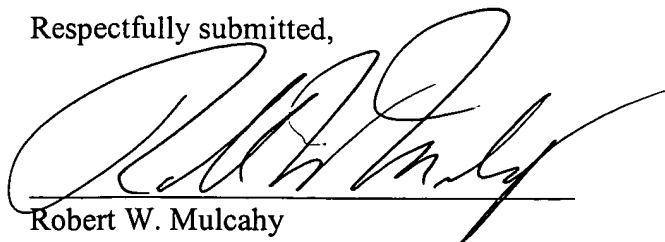
Also transmitted herewith is a Declaration of Prior Invention under 37 CFR § 1.131. Applicants do not believe that any fee is due in connection with the submission of a Declaration under 37 CFR § 1.131.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the amount of \$ 492.00, in payment of the fee of \$ 420.00 for the Two Month Extension of Time, and the fee of \$ 72.00 for additional claims, as well as any additional fees which may be due, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account 50-1074 of Applied Materials, Inc., Santa Clara, California.

This transmittal letter is submitted in duplicate for accounting purposes.

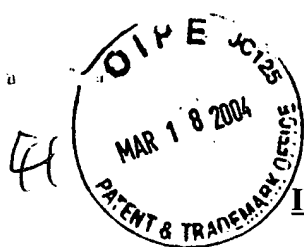
Express Mail No. ER534273792 US
Attorney Docket No.: AM-5630.P1

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. W. Mulcahy', written over a horizontal line.

Robert W. Mulcahy
Registration No. 25,326
Attorney for Applicants

Correspondence Address:
Patent Counsel
Applied Materials, Inc.
P.O. Box 450-A
Santa Clara, California 95052



03-19-04

U.S. Express Mail No.: ER534273792US
Attorney Docket No.: AM-5630.P1

1753

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Chentsau Ying et al.

SERIAL NO.: 09/991,166

FILED: November 16, 2001

FOR: METHOD OF REDUCING PARTICULATES
IN A METAL ETCH CHAMBER
DURING A METAL ETCH PROCESS

§ GROUP ART UNIT: 1765

§

§ EXAMINER: L. Vinh

§

§

§

§

§ Attorney Docket No.:

§ AM-5630.P1

Date: March 18, 2004

AMENDMENT "A" UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

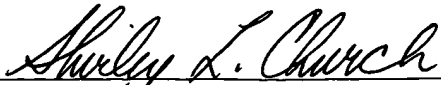
This Amendment "A" is in response to the Office Action mailed November 5, 2003, having a shortened statutory period for response of February 5, 2004. This Amendment "A" is accompanied by a Petition for a Two Month Extension of Time, to extend the period for response through April 5, 2004.

Claims 1 - 60 are pending in the application.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR § 1.10

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as U.S. EXPRESS MAIL NO. ER534273792US in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment (With Fee), Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: March 18, 2004


Shirley L. Church, Reg. No. 31,858

03/22/2004 HVUONG1 00000091 501074 09991166

02 FC:1202 72.00 DA

Claims 2 and 12 are objected to due to various informalities.

Claims 1 - 4, 6, and 27 - 29 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,559,001, to Athavale et al.

Claims 5, 7, and 8 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Athavale et al., in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,877,032, to Guinn et al.

Claims 9 and 10 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Athavale et al., in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,090,718, to Soga et al.

Claims 11 - 14, 16, 19 - 22, and 24 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Athavale et al., in view of Soga et al.

Claims 15, 17, 18, 23, 25, and 26 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Athavale et al., in view of Soga et al., and further in view of Guinn et al.

Claims 30 - 37 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Athavale et al., in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,350,697, to Richardson et al.

Claims 38 - 51, 56, 57, and 59 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,411,631, to Hori et al., in view of Athavale et al.

Claims 52 and 53 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hori et al., in view of Athavale et al., and further in view of Guinn et al.

Claims 54, 55, 58, and 60 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hori et al., in view of Athavale et al., and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,789,867, to Westendorp et al.

Please amend the application as follows: